

10/576507

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
16 June 2005 (16.06.2005)

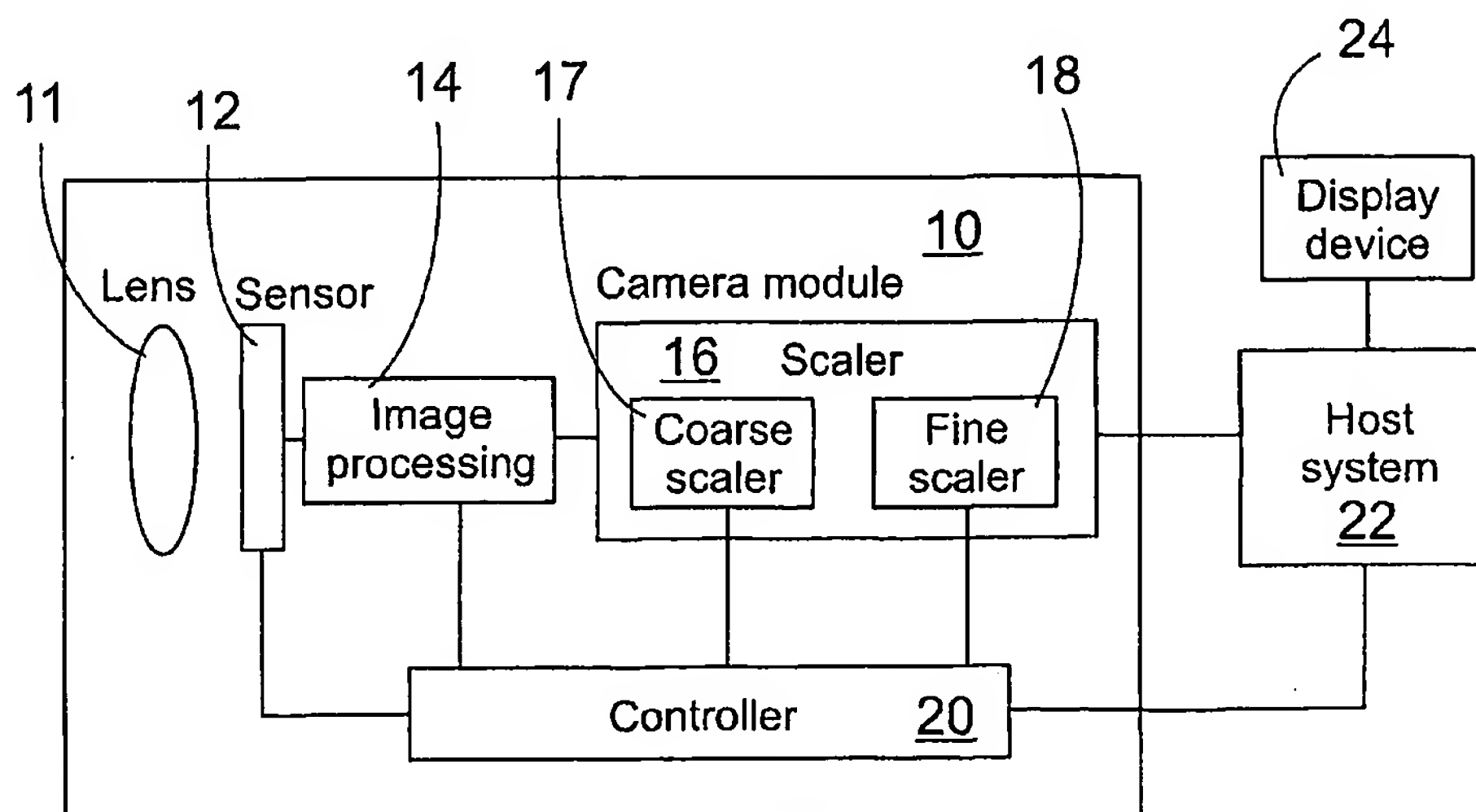
PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2005/055139 A1**

- (51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **G06T 3/40** // H04N 5/262, 3/15
- (21) International Application Number: **PCT/FI2004/050172**
- (22) International Filing Date: **23 November 2004 (23.11.2004)**
- (25) Filing Language: **Finnish**
- (26) Publication Language: **English**
- (30) Priority Data: **20035227** **3 December 2003 (03.12.2003)** **FI**
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- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published: — with international search report

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DOWNSCALING A DIGITAL MATRIX IMAGE



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a method and apparatus for downscaling a digital matrix image, using a selected ratio R, in which the matrix image includes a large number of lines, each line including a large number of pixels, so that the intensity values of the pixels form the matrix, and in which the output matrix pixels formed by scaling correspond to sub-groups of the original matrix, from the intensity values of the pixels of which an average is calculated for each pixel of the output matrix. In the solution, three integers X, Y, and Z are selected in such a way that - the scaling ratio R corresponds approximately to the equation  $Y/(Z \cdot X)$ , in which  $Y < Z$ , and scaling is performed in two stages, of which in the first stage, the matrix is scaled using the ratio  $1/X$ , thus creating the pixels of an intermediate matrix and, in the second stage, the each pixel of the intermediate matrix is scaled using the ratio  $Y/Z$ .

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— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

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